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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,600	LE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel A Hess	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12, 14-16, 18 and 19.
3. The drawings filed on 27 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT / ALLOWANCE

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kelly Fitzgerald on 7/9/2004.

The application has been amended as follows (All other claims remain unchanged):

IN THE CLAIMS:

11. A memory card comprising:
 - a flexible housing having dimensions which substantially conform to a form factor of a memory card standard including a height between approximately 52 mm and 56 mm, a width between approximately 83.6 mm and 87.6 mm, and a thickness between approximately 1.3 mm and 2.3 mm;
 - a memory in the housing, wherein the height and width dimensions of the memory card substantially conform to an ISO 7816 smart card standard and the memory card can be accessed by a smart card reader; and

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a host connector protruding from the housing, the host connector conforming to a host connection standard and allowing access to the memory upon insertion of the host connector into a computer interface compatible with the host connection standard, wherein the host connector defines part of the housing such that the housing defines a thickness dimension that substantially conforms to the host connection standard, and whereing the host connector portion of the housing is defined within the height and width dimensions of the ISO 7816 smart card standard.

12. The memory card of claim 11, wherein the housing defines a corner edge from which the host connector protrudes, the corner edge defined within the dimensions of the ISO 7816 smart card standard memory card form factor.

13. (Cancelled).

14. The memory card of claim 11, wherein the housing includes a cover that fits over the host connector to precisely substantially conform the memory card to the form factor of the memory card standard.

16. The memory card of claim 11, further comprising a smart card contact disposed on the housing, the smart card contact conforming to a the ISO 7816 smart card standard and allowing access to the memory by a reader compatible with the smart card standard.

17. (Cancelled).

18. The memory card of claim 16, wherein the thickness of the housing is approximately twice a thickness of a form factor of the ISO 7816 smart card standard.

19. A memory card comprising:

a flexible housing defining a first major edge between approximately 52 mm and 56 mm and a second major edge between approximately 83.6 mm and 87.6 mm, and a corner edge, wherein the corner edge reduces lengths of adjacent edges to define a third major edge of the housing less than 52 mm and a fourth major edge of the housing less than 83.6 mm;

a memory in the housing, wherein the memory card substantially conforms to an ISO 7816 smart card standard and the memory can be accessed by a smart card reader; and

a host connector protruding from the corner edge, the host connector conforming to a host connection standard and allowing access to the memory upon insertion of the host connector into a computer interface compatible with a host connection standard, wherein the host connector does not extend beyond the first or second major edges of the housing such that the host connector protruding from the corner edge is defined within the height and width dimensions of the ISO 7816 smart card standard.

20. (Cancelled).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-12, 14-16, 18 and 19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art record evaluated by the examiner fails to teach or properly suggest a smart card conforming partly to a smart card standard in the manner claimed, having built into it another connector protruding from the card, this connector conforming to a different standard in addition to a smart card standard that the card complies with.

The nearest prior art of record discovered by the examiner is Pua et al. (US 2002/0147882 A1) which teaches a memory card having a built-in USB connector. Pua et al. lacks conformity to any smart card standard, and further is not easily modifiable to meet such a standard.

The Examiner wishes to make clear on the record what the terms *host connector* and *host connector standard* are understood to mean. Based on the specification, it is understood that this host connector is in conformity to one of the formats **explicitly recited** in the fourth paragraph of the Background of the instant specification. Anything not mentioned should not be considered to be within the scope of the term *host connector standard*. Otherwise the term *host connector standard* could mean almost anything. If new standards are added, then the scope of the claims would otherwise be changing.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Fruhauf et al. (US 6,439,464) teaches a dual mode smart card, but it still requires an external adapter. Wang et al. (US 2004/0087194 A1) teaches a connector which handles multiple formats.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel A Hess whose telephone number is (571) 272-2392. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DH

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Examiner
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THIEN M. LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER